

at public elementary and secondary schools, and other relevant players in the State.

Second, the E-squared for Innovation Act provides implementation grants to State educational agencies to carry out a number of activities, including developing academic standards, curricula, and assessments that include engineering; recruiting and training qualified teachers to deliver engineering education; and investing in afterschool engineering education programs. Priority will be given to applicants who serve a significant percentage of student populations underrepresented in engineering.

Third, the bill charges the Institute of Education Sciences with conducting research and evaluation on the grants awarded. These studies will determine the effectiveness of the programs and activities at improving student achievement in STEM education and assess how successful programs can be replicated.

The E-squared for Innovation Act is supported by a diverse list of 77 organizations. To name a few, supporters include the National Center for Technological Literacy, the American Society for Engineering Education, the Delaware Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education, IBM, Intel, the University of California, the National Society of Black Engineers, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers—just to name a few. I am truly amazed but genuinely pleased at the wide-reaching support for this bill.

Norm Augustine, former CEO of Lockheed Martin, expressed strong support for the E-squared for Innovation Act, adding:

One of the many reasons our nation does not seem to attract young people into engineering is that many seem to have no idea what an engineer does. Although we attempt to teach math and science in K-12, seldom do we expose students to engineering.

Many in my home State recognize this problem and, consequently, support for STEM programs is growing in Delaware. Governor Jack Markell recently launched a STEM education council in Delaware to bring together teachers, business leaders, curriculum specialists, higher education representatives, and others to focus on innovative STEM programs and curricula that engage young people in Delaware in STEM education. The council will assist in Federal grant applications for STEM-related programs and support effective professional development programs in STEM areas.

In STEM-focused schools across Delaware, students are learning how to extract DNA from fruit, build robots that can throw balls, perform forensic investigations, make “slime” and lip balm, and more. It is through these types of comprehensive, hands-on activities that we will get young people interested in tackling and learning STEM subjects and eventually pursuing engineering jobs. The E-squared for Innovation Act is just the kind of program we

need to bolster these activities in Delaware and ensure more students nationwide have access to these exciting engineering opportunities.

I cannot stress enough how much I believe this Nation is at a crossroads in STEM education and that this is our opportunity to push forward and create an environment that will cultivate and encourage our next generation of engineers. They will foster the research and innovation that will help us solve challenges such as clean drinking water, lifesaving cures for cancer and disease, renewable energy, affordable health care, and environmental sustainability.

Our country is counting on these future engineers, and the E-squared for Innovation Act is a step in the right direction to support and encourage them.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 422—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT PROGRESS MADE BY THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENTIAL RUN-OFF ELECTION ON FEBRUARY 7, 2010

Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 422

Whereas adherence by Ukraine to democratic, transparent, and fair election standards has been necessary for full integration into the democratic community;

Whereas steps undertaken by Ukraine in recent years, including reform of election laws and regulations, the development of a pluralistic and independent press, and the establishment of public institutions that respect human rights and the rule of law, have enhanced Ukraine's progress toward democracy and prosperity;

Whereas the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) concluded that “most OSCE and Council of Europe commitments were met” with regard to the conduct of the run-off presidential election on February 7, 2010;

Whereas international monitoring groups concluded that prior elections in Ukraine on January 17, 2010, and in 2007, 2006, and 2004, were also generally in accordance with international election norms;

Whereas the United States has closely supported the people of Ukraine in their efforts to pursue a free and democratic future since the declaration of their independence in 1991;

Whereas the NATO Freedom Consolidation Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-17; 22 U.S.C. 1928 note), signed into law by President George W. Bush on April 9, 2007, recognized the progress made by Ukraine toward meeting the responsibilities and obligations for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and designated Ukraine as eligible to receive assistance under the NATO Participation Act of 1994 (title II of Public Law 103-447; 22 U.S.C. 1928 note);

Whereas Ukraine has made steps toward integration within European institutions through a joint European Union-Ukraine Action Plan, as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy; and

Whereas the United States-Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission was inaugu-

rated by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Petro Poroshenko on December 9, 2009: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the important progress made by the people of Ukraine in establishing democratic institutions and carrying out peaceful elections on January 17 and February 7, 2010;

(2) supports ongoing progress by Ukraine in addressing remaining challenges in the electoral processes as identified by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international election monitoring entities;

(3) encourages all parties to respect the independence and territorial sovereignty of Ukraine, as well as the full integration of Ukraine into the international democratic community;

(4) pledges further support for the development of a fully free and open democratic system, as well as a transparent free market economy, in Ukraine; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to engage the Government of Ukraine in further development of bilateral cooperation through the United States-Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the important progress made by the people of Ukraine in the establishment of democratic institutions following the presidential runoff election on February 7, 2010. Voters recently elected Viktor Yanukovich as President of Ukraine in a process that international monitors declared to have generally comported with international election standards. This represents important progress towards the consolidation of democratic institutions that the U.S. has worked diligently to foster. Serving as President George W. Bush's envoy to the 2004 runoff election that resulted in what is now widely known as the “Orange revolution,” I had the opportunity to witness firsthand the great aspirations of the Ukrainian people for a government that responds to their needs. Given Ukraine's location on the periphery of NATO and the Russian Federation, as well as its role as the primary energy conduit to Europe, Ukraine's political development and external orientation greatly impact European security and U.S. policies in the region. A continuing partnership with the people of Ukraine and U.S. technical assistance programs on a range of issues, including nuclear security, non-proliferation, energy security, institution-building, and others, will serve to advance our vital national security interests. This U.S. engagement should also support ongoing progress by Ukraine in addressing the remaining challenges in the electoral processes as identified by international election monitoring entities. In recognition of the profound successes of U.S.-Ukrainian partnership, I am pleased to submit this resolution concerning the important progress made by the people of Ukraine in the establishment of democratic institutions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 423—COM-MENDING THE NEW ORLEANS SAINTS FOR WINNING SUPER BOWL XLIV AND THE ENTIRE “WHO DAT NATION” FOR THEIR SUPPORT

Mr. VITTER (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 423

Whereas on February 7, 2010, at Sun Life Stadium in Miami, Florida, the New Orleans Saints won Super Bowl XLIV, defeating the Indianapolis Colts by a score of 31-17;

Whereas on January 24, 2010, at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana, the New Orleans Saints won the National Football Conference Championship, defeating the Minnesota Vikings by a score of 31-28;

Whereas the New Orleans Saints won a franchise-record 13 games during the 2009 National Football League regular season;

Whereas the New Orleans Saints led the National Football League during the 2009 regular season in total offense, with 403.8 yards per game, total scoring, with 31.9 points per game, and defensive touchdowns, with 8 turnovers that were returned for touchdowns;

Whereas New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees led the National Football League during the 2009 regular season in passer rating, with a rating of 109.6, completion percentage, with 70.6 percent of passes completed, and passing touchdowns, with 34 touchdowns thrown, and was also named the Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl XLIV;

Whereas quarterback Drew Brees, offensive tackle Jonathan Stinchcomb, offensive guard Jahri Evans, center Jonathan Goodwin, linebacker Jonathan Vilma, strong safety Roman Harper, and free safety Darren Sharper were named to the 2010 National Football Conference Pro Bowl team;

Whereas during his tenure with the New Orleans Saints, head coach Sean Payton has led the franchise to 38 regular season wins, 4 playoff wins, 2 National Football Conference championship games, and the first Super Bowl and National Football League Championship victories in the history of the team; and

Whereas the New Orleans Saints are the first professional sports franchise to bring a championship to the City of New Orleans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the New Orleans Saints for winning Super Bowl XLIV and the entire “Who Dat Nation” for their support;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, and support staff who were instrumental in the success of the New Orleans Saints during the 2009 football season; and

(3) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution for appropriate display to the New Orleans Saints.

SENATE RESOLUTION 424—CONGRATULATING THE BMW ORACLE RACING TEAM FOR WINNING THE THIRTY-THIRD AMERICA’S CUP

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 424

Whereas the America’s Cup is the oldest active trophy in international sports;

Whereas the United States was represented in the thirty-third America’s Cup by BMW ORACLE Racing;

Whereas the team was led by the owner, founder, and chief executive officer of Oracle Corporation, Larry Ellison, the chief executive officer of the team, Russell Coutts, and the skipper of the team, James Spithill;

Whereas BMW ORACLE Racing represents the Golden Gate Yacht Club located in San Francisco, California;

Whereas the boat of the BMW ORACLE Racing team, USA, is the largest and most technologically advanced boat to ever race for the America’s Cup;

Whereas USA was sourced and built entirely in the United States;

Whereas, on February 12, 2010, the BMW ORACLE Racing team won the first of the America’s Cup races with a 15 minutes, 28 seconds lead over the Swiss Defender, Alinghi;

Whereas, on February 14, 2010, the BMW ORACLE Racing team captured the thirty-third America’s Cup with a 5 minute, 26 second victory over the Swiss Defender, Alinghi, clinching the best of the series with a second victory; and

Whereas BMW ORACLE Racing has represented the United States with high standards, technological prowess, and great skill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the entire BMW ORACLE Racing team for winning the thirty-third America’s Cup; and

(2) recognizes the BMW ORACLE Racing team, and specifically the founder and owner Larry Ellison, for the technological accomplishments of the team in the international sport of sailing.

SENATE RESOLUTION 425—CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA ON ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY AND RECOGNIZING ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 425

Whereas Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) has made an extraordinary contribution to alleviating poverty and improving American society since the program began in 1965;

Whereas more than 175,000 individuals of all ages and from different walks of life have answered VISTA’s call to devote a year of full-time service living and working in low-income communities to help eradicate poverty;

Whereas VISTA members have helped create many successful and sustainable community initiatives, including Head Start centers, credit unions, and neighborhood watch groups, with VISTA alumni going on to serve in leadership positions in government, private, and nonprofit sectors throughout the United States;

Whereas VISTA, which became part of AmeriCorps in 1993 and is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, annually engages more than 7,000 members in helping more than 1,000 local organizations build sustainable anti-poverty programs;

Whereas AmeriCorps VISTA members improve the lives of the most vulnerable citi-

zens in our Nation by fighting illiteracy, improving health services, reducing unemployment, increasing housing opportunities, reducing crime and recidivism, and expanding access to technology;

Whereas AmeriCorps VISTA members develop programs, recruit community volunteers, generate resources, manage projects, and enhance the ability of nonprofit organizations to become and remain sustainable, thereby strengthening the nonprofit sector in low-income communities across the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps VISTA members generate more than \$100,000,000 in cash and in-kind resources annually for organizations throughout the Nation, as well as recruit and manage more than 1,000,000 volunteers who provide 10,000,000 hours of community service for local organizations; and

Whereas AmeriCorps VISTA acted swiftly to help implement the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), engaging more than 3,700 members in distressed communities to provide foreclosure prevention and financial counseling, expand college access, and support health care and independent living services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the more than 175,000 men and women who have served in VISTA for their dedication and commitment to the fight against poverty;

(2) recognizes VISTA members for leveraging human, financial, and material resources to increase the ability of thousands of low-income areas across the country to address challenges and improve their communities; and

(3) encourages the continued commitment of VISTA members to creating and expanding programs designed to bring individuals and communities out of poverty.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today, to celebrate a remarkable anniversary. This month, Volunteers in Service to America, better known as VISTA, celebrates the 45th anniversary of its founding. I am delighted to have Senator THAD COCHRAN of Mississippi as my cosponsor. Public service is a bipartisan issue.

Forty-five years of bringing people together, lifting communities up, fighting poverty, making America stronger.

Forty-five years of fighting illiteracy, improving health services, reducing unemployment, increasing housing opportunities, reducing crime and recidivism, and expanding access to technology.

Forty-five years of leveraging resources and building capacity while providing thousands of Americans the opportunity to devote a year of full-time service living and working in low-income communities to help eradicate poverty.

VISTA did not invent these ideas; America has a long and rich history of public service. But when John F. Kennedy became president, these enduring values found new life. The person in his new administration who truly pursued that vision with all his might was President Kennedy’s brother-in-law, Sargent Shriver. I will always know him as a hero and a friend.

He created a legacy of programs that promote social equality and human dignity—such as Legal Services, Job